GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1535
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2016
Shortage of Defence Equipment
Maadam Smt. Poonamben Hematbhai;Singh Shri Bhola

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the three wings of defence forces is facing acute shortage of state-of-the-art defence equipment, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(b) whether the Government proposes to speed up defence acquisition process and develop strategic partnership shortage and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to allow FDI and foreign defence manufacturers to beef up defence production, if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon;

(d) whether the Government proposes to encourage R&D in defence equipment, and

(e) the funds provided for the purpose?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR)

(a) to (e): Government attaches high priority to ensuring that the Armed Forces are adequately equipped and operationally prepared to deal with the entire spectrum of security challenges facing the country. In this context, there is a constant Endeavour to modernize the Armed Forces through acquisition of contemporary systems, development of new technologies and upgrading of conventional equipment.

While taking measures to expedite procurement of required equipment, Government is also committed to promotion of indigenization and self-reliance in the defence sector, which is a focus area under the 'Make in India' initiative. A number of measures, including priority and preference to procurement from Indian vendors; liberalization of the licensing regime and enabling of access to modern and state-of-the-art technology to Indian industry by raising the cap on FDI in the defence sector have been taken to harness the potential in the public and private sector to meet defence requirements.
Research and development for defence equipment is spearheaded by the Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO). The allocation for DRDO in RE 2015-16 is Rs.12391.21 crore.

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